



Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 20, 2002

PRESS CONTACT: Tina Berger
(202)289-6400

David V.D. Borden Receives Prestigious David H. Hart Award

Williamsburg, VA– The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission today proudly recognized the enormous commitment of David V.D. Borden, Assistant Director for Natural Resource Development and Protection, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, to the conservation and management of Atlantic coast fisheries. The award was presented at the Commission's 61st Annual Meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia.

This year's David H. Hart Award recipient has been involved in marine fisheries management for nearly a quarter of a century and, over that time, he has left an indelible mark on the way fisheries conservation and management is conducted along the Atlantic coast. David began his career as a Senior Marine Fisheries Biologist for the Rhode Island Division of Fish and Wildlife. Showing innovation and creativity, David designed and implemented a computerized catch reporting program for one of the most important Atlantic coastal fisheries — American lobster. He soon became Rhode Island's Principal Marine Fishery Biologist, administering the mandates of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976 (now known as the Magnuson-Stevens Act).

In 1987, David was promoted to Deputy Chief of Marine Fisheries, coordinating activities between and among various programs to assure compatibility with marine management and enforcement at both the state and federal level. He worked on the preparation and implementation of many research and development projects that have significantly improved the economic return for Rhode Island fishermen. During that time, David was also appointed by the Governor of Rhode Island to be the state's representative to the New England Fishery Management Council, where he has served on numerous committees and chaired the Council for an unprecedented three terms. David has been and continues to be a strong advocate of measures to improve the enforcement capabilities of federal agencies, in order to provide greater incentives for compliance with fishing regulations.

From 1992 to 1994, David served as Chief of the Rhode Island Division of Fish, Wildlife and Estuarine Resources, leaving a lasting impression during his tenure. He conducted an in-depth review of all programs, restructured operations to promote efficiency, restored the chain of command, oversaw numerous new initiatives, developed new grant and federal aid programs, and improved public relations. During that time, David was appointed as Rhode Island's Administrative Commissioner to the Commission, where he served as Vice-chair and Chair. As Vice-chair, David was instrumental in the development of the Commission's first five-year strategic plan and presided over the implementation of the first Action Plan during his chairmanship. As Chair, David made tremendous strides to increase the efficiency in the way the Commission conducts its business.

Overseeing the Commission's transition to four meeting weeks a year, he challenged his fellow Commissioners to be more responsible in the way they participate in and run meetings and provided training to improve their individual and collective skills. He was also instrumental in the development of the Atlantic Coastal Cooperative

-over-

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (Commission) was formed by the 15 Atlantic coastal states in 1942 for the promotion and protection of coastal fishery resources. The Commission serves as a deliberative body of the Atlantic coastal states, coordinating the conservation and management of nearshore fishery resources, including marine, shell and anadromous species.

1444 Eye Street, N.W. -- Sixth Floor -- Washington, D.C. 20005
(202)289-6400 (phone) (202)289-6051 (fax)
www.asmf.org

Statistics Program, with his state leading the way with a state of the art data collection and management program for commercial fisheries.

The Commission instituted the "Captain David H. Hart Award" in 1991 to recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the betterment of marine fisheries on the Atlantic coast. The award is named for the Commission's oldest and longest-serving member, a Governor's Appointee from New Jersey who was dedicated to the advancement and protection of marine fishery resources. Past recipients of the award are: Irwin M Alperin, longtime Executive Director of the Commission; Representative Walter B. Jones of North Carolina; Dr. Edwin B. Joseph with the South Carolina Wildlife and Marine Resources; Richard H. Schaefer, Chief of Staff for Intergovernmental and Recreational Fisheries of the National Marine Fisheries Service; David G. Deuel of the National Marine Fisheries Service; Philip G. Coates, Director of the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries; David M. Cupka of the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources; Sergeant Robert A. Babula, Conservation Officer with the New Hampshire Fish & Game Department; Gordon C. Colvin, Director of Marine Resources for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; Susan Shipman, Chief of Marine Fisheries, Georgia Coastal Resources Division; and Robert K. Mahood, Executive Director of the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

For more information regarding the David H. Hart Award, please contact Laura Leach, Director of Finance and Administration, at (202) 289-6400.